

PATENT *[Signature]*

Atty. Docket No.:2156CON4(203-2287CON4)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s): Nicholas et al.

Examiner: Gary Jackson

Serial No.: 10/642,918

Group: Art Unit 3731

Filed: August 18, 2003

Dated: February 16, 2006

For: ANASTOMOSIS INSTRUMENT AND METHOD

Mail Stop: Amendment  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

AMENDMENT TRANSMITTAL FORM

Sir:

Transmitted herewith is an amendment in the above-identified application.

- [ ] Small entity status of this application under 37 C.F.R. § 1.9 and 1.27 has been established by a verified statement previously submitted.
- [ ] A verified statement to establish small entity under 37 C.F.R. § 1.9 and 1.27 is enclosed.
- [X] No additional fee is required.

The fee has been calculated as shown below:

|  | (Col. 1)                                  | (Col. 2)                              | (Col. 3)         | SMALL ENTITY                      | OTHER THAN<br>SMALL ENTITY |
|--|---|---------------------------------------|------------------|-----------------------------------|----------------------------|
|  | CLAIMS<br>REMAINING<br>AFTER<br>AMENDMENT | HIGHEST NO.<br>PREVIOUSLY<br>PAID FOR | PRESENT<br>EXTRA | RATE FEE                          | ADDIT.<br>OR RATE<br>FEE   |
| TOTAL  | 4*  | MINUS 20**                            | =                | X 25 \$                           | X 50 \$ 0                  |
| INDEP.   | 1*  | MINUS 3**                             | =                | X 100 \$                          | X 200 \$ 0                 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> FIRST PRESENTATION OF MULTIPLE DEP. CLAIM |   |                                       |                  | X 180 \$                          | X 360 \$ 0                 |
|  |   |                                       |                  | TOTAL<br><u>ADDIT. FEE</u> \$ -0- | OR TOTAL \$ 0              |

\* If the entry in Co. 1 is less than entry in Col. 2, write "0" in Col. 3.

\*\* If the "Highest No. Previously Paid for" IN THIS SPACE is less than 20, enter "20".

\*\*\* If the "Highest No. Previously Paid For" IN THIS SPACE is less than 3, enter "3".

The Highest No. Previously Paid For" (Total or indep.) is the highest number found in the appropriate box in Col. 1 of a prior amendment or the number of claims originally filed.

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.8(a)

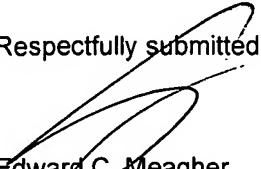
I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail, postpaid in an envelope, addressed to the: Mail Stop Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on date below.

Dated: February 16, 2006

*Edward C. Meagher*

- Please charge Deposit Account No. 21-0550 in the amount of \$\_\_\_\_\_. Two (2) copies of this sheet are enclosed.
- A check in the amount of \$\_\_\_\_ is enclosed.
- Please charge any deficiency as well as any other fee(s) which may become due under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 and/or 1.17 at any time during the pendency of this application, or credit any overpayment of such fee(s) to Deposit Account No. 21-0550. Also, in the event any extensions of time for responding are required for the pending application(s), please treat this paper as a petition to extend the time as required and charge Deposit Account No. 21-0550 therefor. TWO (2) COPIES OF THIS SHEET ARE ENCLOSED.

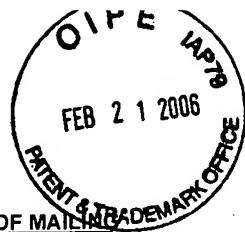
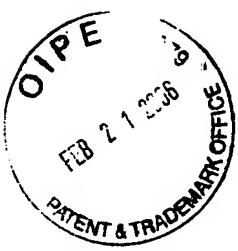
Respectfully submitted,

  
Edward C. Meagher  
Reg. No. 41,189  
Attorney for Applicant(s)

***Carter, DeLuca, Farrell & Schmidt, LLP***

445 Broad Hollow Road  
Suite 225  
Melville, New York 11747  
Tel.: (631) 501-5700  
Fax: (631) 501-3526

ECM/gm



CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service on the date shown with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450 on 2/16/06.

By: Edward Meagher Date: 2/16/06

PATENT

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APPLICANT : NICHOLAS ET AL.  
TITLE : ANASTOMOSIS INSTRUMENT AND METHOD  
SERIAL NO. : 10/642,918  
FILED : August 18, 2003  
EXAMINER : GARY JACKSON

**AMENDMENT UNDER 37 CFR 1.111**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450  
MAILSTOP: NON-Fee Amendment

Dear Sir:

In response to the office action dated December 27, 2005, please amend the application as follows:

**Amendments to the claims** begin on page 2 of this paper.

**Remarks** begin on page 4 of this paper.